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If it wasn't for the post office the Democrats would be in a sad plight.

Those stay at home Democrats will be found voting the Republican ticket in 1896.

The constitutional amendments went by default. Not half of the voters took the trouble to vote either way.

The official count of the 13th congressional district gives Ramey 16,849 and Fox 16,021. Ramey's majority, 828.

SECRETARY CARLISLE finds it necessary to put another \$50,000,000 patch on Uncle Sam's financial trousers.

SENATOR VEST has gone to Hot Springs for the purpose, as he says, "of having some of the disgust boiled out of himself."

MISSOURI Democrats are all shouting for harmony. The late election evidently did not strike a sympathetic chord.

COL. WILLIE BRECKENRIDGE is going on the lecture platform. Now Madeline will be fully justified in going on the stage.

PROF. FETTERMAN, having killed his sparring partner in a pugilistic contest, will now draw larger houses than ever.

EX-GOVERNOR CRITTENDEN says he is glad that the Democrats were defeated in this state and that they deserved all they got.

SENATORS GORMAN, BRICE, etc., are already hustling around in the interest of the sugar trust, and will try to block the Senate against a free sugar bill.

If the sleeves in feminine garments keep on enlarging, we will either have to have our sidewalks widened or an ordinance passed limiting the size of the sleeves.

JERRY SIMPSON, (called the sockless), the defeated Kansas state-man, has probably saved enough of his salary as congressman to enable him to indulge in hosiery for the remainder of his days.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND has retired within himself and will see no one. It is said that he is occupied in studying out a new monetary system for the country, which will be presented to congress in his next message. We look for something wonderful.

IN St. Louis both parties are charging each other with having perpetrated glaring frauds in the late election, and they are both anxious for official investigation. There seems to be something rotten about St. Louis politics, and we look for some interesting developments.

"Congressman Heard has 56 fat steers ready for market. He smiles at defeat. You can't down a Missouri Cincinnatus. He has his eye on the farm and knows the harvest. Farmer Hatch is still better fixed than Farmer Heard. We have no advice from Farmer Champ Clark."—Republican.

LET us also hear from "Farmer" Fox.

It has often been claimed that the human race is making rapid progress towards a high state of civilization. Yet when we read of the massacre of 2,000 Armenian Christians by Turkish barbarians, we must come to the conclusion that in some parts of the world the human race is retrograding. This atrocious crime should be investigated by the great powers of Europe and punishment meted out to the perpetrators.

As it now appears, the Populists will hold the balance of power in the Senate, and the Democratic steering committee of the Senate, is already laying its wires to control the Populist vote. Legislation will probably be obstructed from the beginning of the new congress until the end, and not until the Republicans can get control of all branches of the government, which cannot be until 1896, will the people be relieved from the pernicious legislation of the 53rd session of congress.

We quote from the recent report of the Post-Master-General, as follows:

"For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, the total number of post offices in operation in the United States was 63,805. Of these, 64,377 were fourth-class offices and 3,428 Presidential, the net increase over the previous year being 1,412. During the year 3,133 post offices were established and 1,734 discontinued. The total number of appointments during the year were 25,165, and the total number of cases acted on 27,557, of which 8,965 were in cases of removals."

The Democrats now claim that it was the stay-at-home vote that caused the recent landslide, but so far they have presented no plausible explanation why it was that this vote stood at home. When a Democrat remains away from the polls on election day there must, indeed, be some unusual force at work upon him that holds him back, and whatever this influence is, it has proven to be stronger than party allegiance. There is no reason to believe that these stay-at-home Democrats having once lost confidence in their party will ever return to their old love, and in the future, when they come to vote again, they will have either attached themselves to some new party or will vote with the Republicans.

Now that the Republicans have reclaimed the State of Missouri by electing their State ticket and have a good working majority in the House, the first object of the party should be to keep the State re-elected so that it will be possible to elect a Republican Governor two years hence. This can only be done through harmonious action and judicious legislation. Therefore, it behooves the party leaders to lay aside their personal ambitions and desire for self-aggrandizement and throw the whole weight of their influence together in the common cause of party harmony. Let all factional strife be buried, and Steward and Silk-Stocking unite as one man pull in one direction only, and let the goal be party supremacy. The legislature should act upon the same lines. It should enact such laws as would appeal to popular sentiment; let one of its first acts be a rehabilitation of our senatorial and congressional districts, the gerrymandering of which was one of the chief causes that led to the downfall of the Democracy in this State. Let the legislature also revise our criminal laws with a view to bringing about quicker action of the court, and a consequent reduction of expenses.

Our Democratic friends are watching every move with interest, and nothing would please them better than to see the Republican party wreck itself upon the rock of party dissension. They will do all that lies in their power to foster any disruption that might occur, and hold themselves in readiness to take advantage of it. Let us not, therefore, give them the satisfaction of saying that the Republicans do not deserve to rule the State because of a lack of party harmony.

Democratic Financiering.

FROM THE MISSOURI DEMOCRAT.
The call of Secretary Carlisle for bids for another issue of \$50,000,000 of 5-per cent bonds must be regarded as an additional and impressive proof of the incapacity of the Democrats for the important work of conducting the financial affairs of the government. Twice inside of twelve months, the humiliating expedient of increasing the bonded indebtedness to meet ordinary public expenses has been resorted to, and it seems likely to become a regular thing during the rest of the present administration. The people understand the fact, of course, that the selling of bonds in this way is simply negotiation of a loan, as a private citizen borrows money from a bank on his promissory note. That is to say, the government is doing business at a loss, for the first time since the war. Its receipts fall short of its expenditures month after month, and the deficiency has to be made good by increasing the interest-bearing debt of the nation. When the Democratic party took possession of the government, March 4, 1893,

there was a surplus in the treasury, and the revenue adequate for all purposes. That satisfactory and encouraging situation was soon changed, and we now have the melancholy fact to contemplate that with the sale of the bonds just advertised the public debt will be \$100,000,000 larger than it was when the Republican party went out of power.

It is easy to say that this misfortune is attributable to exceptional conditions and special circumstances; but to what are those exceptional conditions and special circumstances attributable? The resources of the country have not been lessened. There are the same appliances of prosperity here to-day that were here before Democratic rule was substituted for Republican rule. The soil is still as fertile as it ever was, the people are as energetic as they ever were, capital is as abundant as it ever was, and there is as much labor of all kind as there ever was. But these influences, heretofore so potent, do not produce the results that they did throughout the long period of Republican management of national affairs. That period was distinguished by a constant reduction of the public debt. The burdens of the people were lightened from time to time, and all industrial interests were steadily promoted. It is different now because the political conditions have been changed. The government is being carried on by a party that is scandalously incompetent. Its doctrines and policies are inimical to the welfare of the country, and all of its tendencies are in the direction of hard times. That is what the new sale of bonds signifies; and the verdict rendered in the recent election goes to show that the voters take this view of the matter, and are determined to bring back the old order of things as soon as possible.

Our Washington Letter.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 16th, 1894.
"If Secretary Carlisle remains in Cleveland's cabinet," said a Democrat of national reputation to a personal friend, "he deserves to lose every friend he has, and what is more he will lose them. He has been humiliated several times before, but never quite so publicly as in this new bond issue. At the very time when Carlisle was assuring not only the newspaper men, but his closest friends, that no immediate bond issue was contemplated, one of his assistants was in New York, under Mr. Cleveland's personal orders, perfecting arrangements with bankers of that city to issue bonds. I remember many instances of the intentional humiliation of members of the cabinet by Presidents, who for one or another reason wished to get rid of them without asking for their resignations, but this is the only time I ever heard of the news of a contemplated bond issue being given out by New York bankers before it was known to the Secretary of the Treasury, and I doubt if such a thing ever happened before. Of course, I can understand that this is a peculiarly bad time for Carlisle to leave the cabinet, but if he doesn't he will take a big drop in his estimation." This gentleman expresses the situation so well, as it is known in Washington, that it is needless for me to add to it further than that Mr. Cleveland says Mr. Carlisle and himself are in accord.

Republicans see nothing wrong in another bond issue so far as that act of itself is concerned, and if certain Democrats and Populists in congress attempt to embarrass the administration on account of it, as they will threaten to do, they will get little assistance from Republicans. It is the bad policy of the administration and the Democratic congress, which has made bond issues necessary to protect the credit of the government, that Republicans object to and will continue to object to, until it is in their power to change it.

Considerable amusement has been cent here by a reference to the value of the cuckoo as a weather prophet, made by Prof. Hazen, chief of the weather bureau, in a lecture on "long range and popular weather forecasts." Prof. Hazen said of the cuckoo: "The bird has a singularly mournful note, and its voice is an invariable sign of a coming storm. I heard one singing in front of the White House last summer." Prof. Hazen is a scientist, not a politician, yet the accuracy of his remarks indicates that he also knows something about recent political happenings, although he would probably say, if questioned, that he knew nothing of the political cuckoo.

Senator Pender very kindly concedes that the Republicans will

elect the next President and says that the new national party, in his mind, is to be made up of Populists and the dissatisfied Democrats and Republicans does not expect to elect a President until 1900. And he actually seems to feel hurt because nobody pays any attention to him. The general impression of shrewd observers is that by 1900 the most of our people will have forgotten that a Populist party ever existed.

Senator Gorman is said to be the father of a scheme by which the Democrats hope to certainly save one of the Senators from North Carolina and possibly both of them. The scheme is quite Gormanesque. It provides that the governor of North Carolina—a Democrat—shall call an immediate extra session of the present legislature, which is overwhelmingly Democratic, and that a Senator shall be elected to fill the unexpired term of the late Senator Vance, whose seat is now occupied by Senator Jarvis who was appointed by the governor to fill the vacancy until the meeting of the legislature. Although that would be an extraordinary proceeding it would probably be allowed to stand if the Democrats are willing to saddle the expense of an extra session of the legislature, which legally expires December 31, 1894, on the taxpayers of the State in order to keep a Democrat in the Senate until March 3, 1897. But the proposition to have that extra session elect a successor to Senator Ransom whose term expires March 3, 1895, will be regarded as revolutionary and will be resisted in the courts. The selection of Ransom's successor belongs legally to the legislature just elected, the official life of which begins January 1, 1895.

Having made a conspicuous failure in his tariff policy, Mr. Cleveland will, according to those who claim to have been given an inkling of his intentions, in his annual message to Congress, attempt to inaugurate a brand new financial policy, with a special view to pleasing the inflationists who control the Democratic party of the south and alienating them from the free coinage of silver which he thinks they advocate for no other reason than that they want more money and cheaper money. Mr. Cleveland's occupation—office holding—has not given him the experience that is absolutely necessary to a successful financier, but his egotism makes him, in his own mind at least, equal to any task.

They Go By Default.

The overwhelming defeat of the two amendments to the constitution of this State, proposed and submitted by the last General Assembly, calls for some discussion in view of the fact that for many years it has been found almost impossible to secure the adoption of the most urgent and necessary amendments to our organic law.

One of the propositions supposed to have been voted upon at the recent election was that Kansas City should have the power to disconnect herself from Jackson County and set up a government for herself similar to that of St. Louis. It was a matter of perfect indifference to the whole State outside of the county and city involved. The second proposition was that counties having a population of less than 100,000 should have the authority to levy and collect for road and bridge purposes and additional tax not to exceed 15 cents on the \$100. This was apparently a most necessary, wholesome and by no means extravagant measure, since it afforded the only hopeful opportunity of transforming some of the miserable roads of this State into passable highways.

But the people would have neither of them.

There was no politics in the propositions presented. They were both worthy of adoption, no matter whether Missouri be 100,000 Republican or Democratic.

They simply received comparatively no votes at all. The trouble is that many thousands of men vote what they call "a straight ticket," having pride in casting a ballot for their party unscratched. And in their vigorous determination not to scratch they invariably overlook the fact that at the bottom of their ticket are propositions upon which they are asked to vote "yes" or "no," and that unless they scratch one or the other they have failed to vote either way.

This is why proposed constitutional amendments rarely receive attention at the polls and are almost invariably defeated without a real expression from the people.

There should be such a change in the style of printing ballots for elections as will place the question of constitutional amendments at the very top of the ticket, in bold, black type, or in red ink—if necessary—so that the voter cannot avoid seeing that he is charged with a most important duty of citizenship aside from that of electing the next President and says that the new national party, in his mind, is to be made up of Populists and the dissatisfied Democrats and Republicans does not expect to elect a President until 1900. And he actually seems to feel hurt because nobody pays any attention to him. The general impression of shrewd observers is that by 1900 the most of our people will have forgotten that a Populist party ever existed.

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Under the present system of printing ballots the amendment propositions are put in small Roman type, at the very bottom of the ticket, and so are overlooked in three cases out of five.

And in eight cases out of ten this carelessness can be charged up to the most intelligent voters and those most competent to decide upon grave questions of that character.

We submit, therefore, that amendments to the constitution of this State are adopted and defeated without any regard whatever for the wishes of the people, but merely by default. And the matter is of such importance as to challenge the attention of the Legislature, and might also receive consideration by the Governor in his next biennial message.

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